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RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC PRIORITY  
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RUEHDIR/IRAN RPO DUBAI PRIORITY  
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C O N F I D E N T I A L BAKU 001378

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DEPARTMENT FOR ISN, T, EUR, EAP, AND NEA; ALSO PASS TO  
TREASURY

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/14/2017

TAGS: [PREL](#) [KNNP](#) [PARM](#) [EFIN](#) [IR](#) [AJ](#)

SUBJECT: AZERBAIJAN INFORMED OF DESIGNATIONS OF IRANIAN  
ENTITIES AND INDIVIDUALS

REF: A. STATE 148605

[B](#). BAKU 1293

[C](#). BAKU 1331

Classified By: Acting Pol/Econ Chief David McCormick for reasons 1.4 (b)  
) and (d).

[1](#). (C) After delivering reftel non-paper and fact sheet to Azerbaijani Presidential Foreign Policy Advisor Novruz Mammadov on October 26 (ref b), the Ambassador discussed the same points with Azerbaijani Foreign Minister Elmar Mammadyarov on November 02 (ref c). After thanking the Ambassador for informing him about the new designations, Mammadyarov said "honestly speaking, we have to research the finances of Melli Bank."

[2](#). (C) The Embassy delivered reftel non-paper and fact sheet to the Ministry of Finance and National Bank on October 26. Neither entity provided substantive comment about the designations. In an October 27 press statement, National Bank spokesman Kamran Nazarli said "Azerbaijan will not join the U.S. sanctions against Iran's Bank Melli as it is unilateral."

[3](#). (C) Embassy Econoff delivered reftel non-paper and fact sheet to International Bank of Azerbaijan (IBA) Chairman Jahangir Hajiyevev on November 09 (Note: IBA is majority state-owned and the largest bank in Azerbaijan.) Hajiyevev thanked Econoff, adding that IBA had no banking relationships with Iran's Bank Melli (operational in Azerbaijan) or any other Iranian banks.

[4](#). (C) The Embassy will continue to seek opportunities to urge our GOAJ counterparts to take steps to isolate these entities and prevent them from facilitating further proliferation and terrorist activities. We will report any new developments septel.

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